



**OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY
DEVELOP LOUISVILLE
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY**

**GREG FISCHER
MAYOR**

**MARIA KOETTER
DIRECTOR**

July 8, 2016

The Solar Foundation
600 14th St., NW, #400
Washington, DC 20005

Re: Letter of Support for SolSmart Application

Dear Program Officer:

As Director of Sustainability for Louisville Metro Government, I am happy to offer our enthusiastic support for Louisville's participation in the Solar Powering America by Recognizing Communities (SPARC) program and to express our intent to achieve SolSmart designation.

Louisville is committed to review and assess the soft costs associated with solar power deployment including planning and zoning ordinances, inspection and permitting processes and financing mechanisms that impact the speed and efficacy of solar installations for all users. Receiving the SPARC designation will help us obtain the technical assistance that is needed to position Louisville as a leading city for solar initiatives, which will ultimately lead to an increase in solar energy usage citywide.

A number of steps have recently been taken to promote solar energy. In 2015, the Louisville Metro Council unanimously adopted a resolution supporting the future of solar energy. In 2016, Louisville citizens launched a broad-based and citizen-driven Solar Over Louisville campaign to increase awareness, education and usage of solar energy. On Earth Day this year, Mayor Greg Fischer became a signatory of the Compact of Mayors, a global commitment to track and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

The Office of Sustainability is committed to tracking solar installations with our community partners, through the office's metrics based performance program, SustainStat. Internal resources are available in support of this effort.

We look forward to working with the U.S. Department of Energy SunShot Initiative as a SPARC community.

Sincerely,

Maria Koetter
Director of Sustainability
Louisville Metro Government

LOUISVILLE FORWARD
www.louisvilleky.gov